

**ATTACHMENT A**
Remarks

Claims 1-5 and 7-21 are pending in the present application. This application now includes four independent claims, including claim 1 (with its dependent claims 2-5 and 7-11), claim 12 (with its dependent claims 13-17), claim 18 (with its dependent claims 19 and 20) and claim 21. Claim 1 includes the subject matter of allowed claim 6, while claims 12, 18 and 21, rewritten to include the subject matter of parent claim 1, have been indicated as being allowable. Therefore, with correction of the § 112 objections and rejections, as described below, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly not complying with the written description requirement, and under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as not having proper antecedent basis in the specification. By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claim 1 to now recite that the sealing head is mounted on means of approach and withdrawal, as depicted and described in the present specification, thereby obviating the rejection to claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs.

In addition, claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite which, by this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 1, 12 and 17, thereby obviating the rejection to the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,260,447 in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,925,963, while claims 6-21 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C.

§ 112, second paragraph. As discussed above, the claims have been rewritten to overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraph rejections, and claims 1, 12, 18 and 21 have been rewritten, as discussed above, to present allowable subject matter. Applicant reserves the right to file a continuation application for subject matter previously recited.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance.

END REMARKS